
By: **Delegates Love and Sophocleus**

Introduced and read first time: February 28, 2001

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Scooters - Protective Helmets and Headgear**

3 FOR the purpose of prohibiting an individual under a certain age from riding on a
4 motorized or nonmotorized scooter unless the individual wears a helmet or
5 protective headgear that meets or exceeds certain standards; providing for the
6 issuance of a certain warning; requiring the Motor Vehicle Administration to
7 conduct a certain study and report to certain committees of the General
8 Assembly on or before a certain date; defining the term "scooter"; and generally
9 relating to the operation of motorized and nonmotorized scooters.

10 BY adding to

11 Article - Transportation

12 Section 11-154.1 and 16-104.3

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article - Transportation**

18 11-154.1.

19 "SCOOTER" MEANS A TWO-WHEELED VEHICLE THAT:

20 (1) HAS HANDLEBARS;

21 (2) IS DESIGNED TO BE STOOD ON BY THE OPERATOR; AND

22 (3) (I) IS POWERED BY A MOTOR; OR

23 (II) IS NOT MOTORIZED.

1 16-104.3.

2 (A) (1) AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 16 YEARS MAY NOT RIDE A
3 SCOOTER IN THE STATE UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL WEARS A HELMET OR PROTECTIVE
4 HEADGEAR THAT MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE STANDARDS FOR PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR
5 FOR SCOOTER USE ADOPTED BY THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE,
6 THE SNELL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, OR THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TESTING AND
7 MEASUREMENTS.

8 (2) IF THE STANDARDS-SETTING ORGANIZATIONS LISTED IN
9 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION DO NOT HAVE STANDARDS FOR PROTECTIVE
10 HEADGEAR FOR SCOOTER USE, AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 16 YEARS SHALL
11 WEAR A HELMET OR PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR THAT MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE
12 STANDARDS ADOPTED BY THOSE ORGANIZATIONS FOR PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR FOR
13 BICYCLISTS.

14 (B) THIS SECTION SHALL BE ENFORCED BY THE ISSUANCE OF A WARNING
15 THAT INFORMS THE OFFENDER OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION AND
16 PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS ABOUT HELMET USE.

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Motor Vehicle
18 Administration shall study the safety of operating motorized and nonmotorized
19 scooters and the feasibility and desirability of further regulating their operation
20 beyond the requirement imposed under this Act. The Motor Vehicle Administration
21 shall report its findings to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee and the House
22 Commerce and Government Matters Committee of the General Assembly, subject to §
23 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on or before December 31, 2001.

24 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2001.